MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN

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MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN

EDITED BY

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VOL. 1, No. 6
MAY, 1916

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING

For many years the work of the Minnesota Historical Society has been hampered by the inadequacy of its quarters in the basement of the Capitol. Thousands of books and numberless pictures and museum articles have had to be stored in boxes in the sub-basement or left in the Old Capitol where they are in constant danger of destruction by fire, while members of the staff have had to work in all sorts of cubby-holes and dark corners. Finally, after much earnest effort on the part of members of the society and of others who believe in the preservation of the materials for the history of the state, the legislature of 1913 passed an act appropriating five hundred thousand dollars for the construction by the state board of control of a building for the society and the supreme court. This act provided for the acceptance by the state of a donation of seventy-five thousand dollars from the private funds of the society to be used in purchasing a site for the building and in equipping the part of it to be occupied by the society. The site selected had to have the approval of both the society and the board of control. Many members of the society favored the so-called Lamprey site southeast of the Capitol on the corner of Cedar Street and Central Avenue, where the building would overlook the plaza in front of the Capitol and would fit in with the plans worked out by Cass Gilbert for the development of capitol approaches. The board of control, however, selected the Merriam site, a large tract located directly northeast of the Capitol, and the executive council of the society finally approved of the selection and paid over the money for its purchase.

In the meantime a still more serious difficulty arose. The architect selected, Mr. Clarence H. Johnston of St. Paul, together with members of the supreme court and the secretary

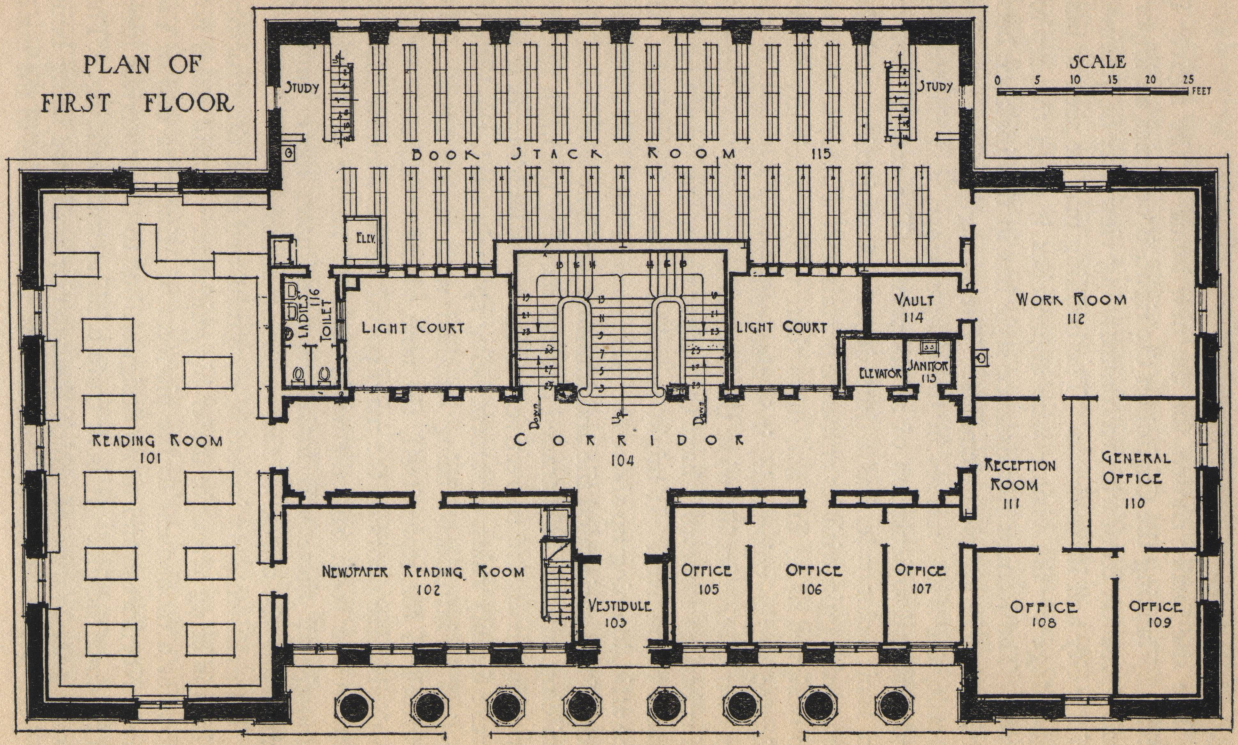
of the society, visited buildings of a similar character in the neighboring states for the purpose of ascertaining what was necessary in the construction of the proposed building. After this and other investigations, it was found, from estimates made by the architect, that a building suitable and adequate for both the society and the supreme court could not be constructed within the limits of the appropriation. The supreme court, in view of this situation and also of the protest of the state bar association against its removal from the Capitol, finally reached the conclusion that it preferred to remain in its present quarters, particularly if, by the removal of the historical society from the Capitol, it could secure added space there.

As a result of this situation application was made to the legislature of 1915 for an amendment to the act of 1913, eliminating the supreme court, providing for the care and preservation of the state archives in the proposed building, and stipulating that any part of the building not in use or actually needed for the purposes of the society, might be used for other state purposes under the direction of the governor. The amendment, which became a law, credited the society with the amount paid for the Merriam site as a part of its donation, but allowed it to select and purchase another site if it so desired and to receive credit for the amount so expended. As soon as possible after the passage of this amendment, the society purchased the Lamprey site and caused it to be conveyed to the state; and the architect, in consultation with the executive committee of the society, commenced work on the plans of the building. These as originally drawn made provision for housing the society, the state archives, and the public library commission. Later, however, in view of the crowded condition of the Capitol, it was decided to assign quarters temporarily to the department of education as well, and this necessitated a revision of the plans and a giving-up by the society of its auditorium and other rooms. It is believed that the state will, in the near future, construct an office building to care for its rapidly increasing activities, and when that time comes the space now assigned to

the department of education will probably be restored to the society and the state archives.

The site finally chosen for the new home of the society is ideal. Flanking the Capitol on the right, it occupies an important eminence, from which a commanding view may be obtained of the city and its environs. The building may be seen to best advantage by the visitor who approaches it from the capitol mall. The Roman Renaissance style has in this instance been reduced to its simplest elements. The strength of the principal façade, the west, resides in the simple, clear, and thoroughly monumental articulation of all its parts. The central motive, an Ionic colonnade, has a just degree of projection, and the recessed loggia with its entrance portals and windows has been so designed as to line and mass that, while sufficiently subordinated to the colonnade, it is also sufficiently emphasized for its own sake. So, likewise, the end pavilions with their breadth of unbroken stonework have the proper accent but do not unduly assert themselves. It might be called a long, low edifice, but the attic, looming up above the main cornice with just a suggestion of the variegated tile and immense skylight which roof the building, and the balustraded terraces flanking the main façade, provide the needed corrective. Outside the building as within, grave dignity rules, ornament being sparsely used, the little of it that is introduced being handled with severe taste. The warmth of the stone itself, the note of color delicately struck in the bronze doors of the main portal, in the window casings, and in the roof, and the vivid tints of nature in the foreground—all these will make more intimate, more humanly interesting the appeal of this imposing edifice.

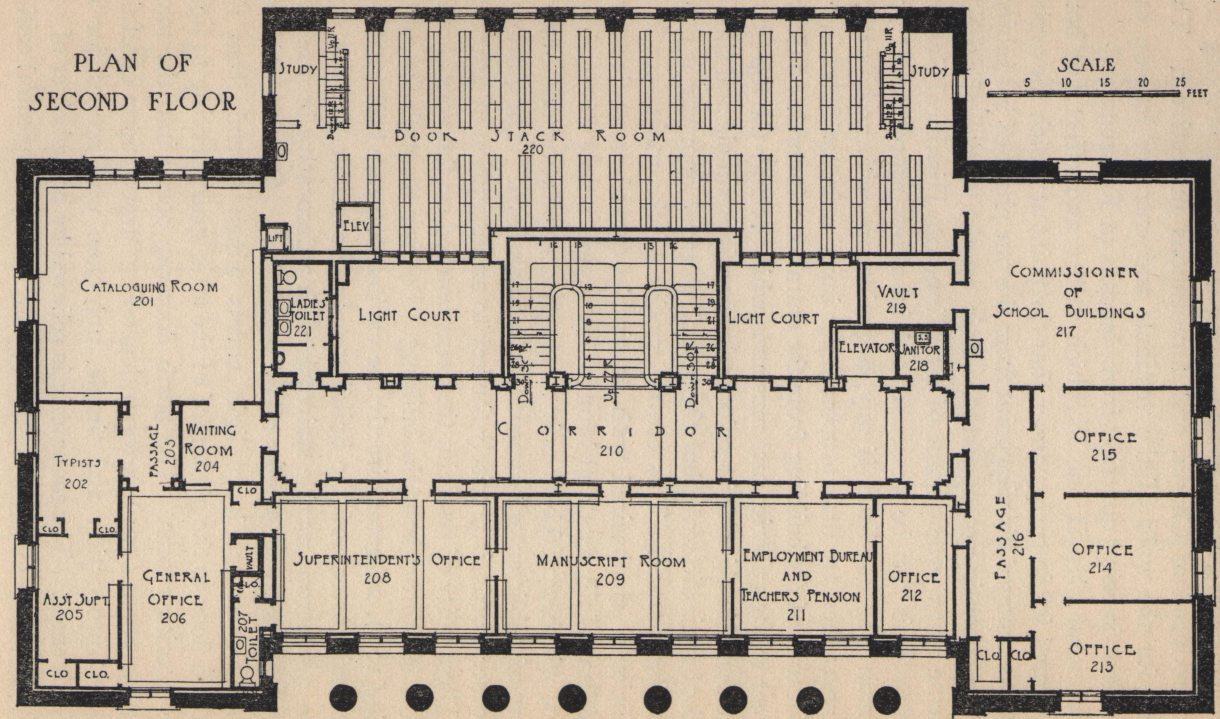
The architect may indeed be congratulated upon the structure which is being wrought under his guidance. It will stand not alone as a monument to the pioneers of Minnesota and of the great Northwest and to its designer, but to the materials used in its construction. It is in truth a Minnesota building. The warm gray granite of which the exterior walls are being built is from large quarries at Sauk Rapids. The marble of the main


PLAN OF
FIRST FLOOR
SCALE
0 5 10 15 20 25 FEET
STUDY
STUDY
BOOK STACK ROOM 115
ELEV.
LADIES TOILET 116
LIGHT COURT
LIGHT COURT
VAULT 114
WORK ROOM 112
ELEVATOR
JANITOR 113
READING ROOM 101
CORRIDOR 104
RECEPTION ROOM 111
GENERAL OFFICE 110
NEWSPAPER READING ROOM 102
VESTIBULE 103
OFFICE 105
OFFICE 106
OFFICE 107
OFFICE 108
OFFICE 109

staircase and of the floors of the corridors and stack rooms is being quarried at Kasota. Brick and clay fireproofing tile are produced at Chaska and Minneapolis respectively. The stone for the walls of the vestibule and entrance hall on the first floor is being quarried from deposits at Frontenac.

An ideal plan is one in which utility and effect are both accounted for in such manner that the point at which the architect has changed his viewpoint from the one phase of his subject to the other is not apparent. It is on the virtue of such a scheme that the new home of the Minnesota Historical Society rests. This can be demonstrated in a few words. Let the layman who has little, if any, acquaintance with architectural plans as they are drawn upon paper imagine himself making a swift tour of the building from the entrance colonnade on Cedar Street to the galleries and museums which occupy the top floor. The portal itself with its colonnaded loggia is simple and stately and of majestic scale, but the actual entrance doorway is comparatively small. This central motive of the main façade is sufficiently emphasized with its simply carved stone doorway and beautifully modeled bronze doors, and a note of spaciousness, which would befit only some great exposition building or place of public entertainment, has been avoided. The entrance, in other words, is precisely the key to an institution of learning.

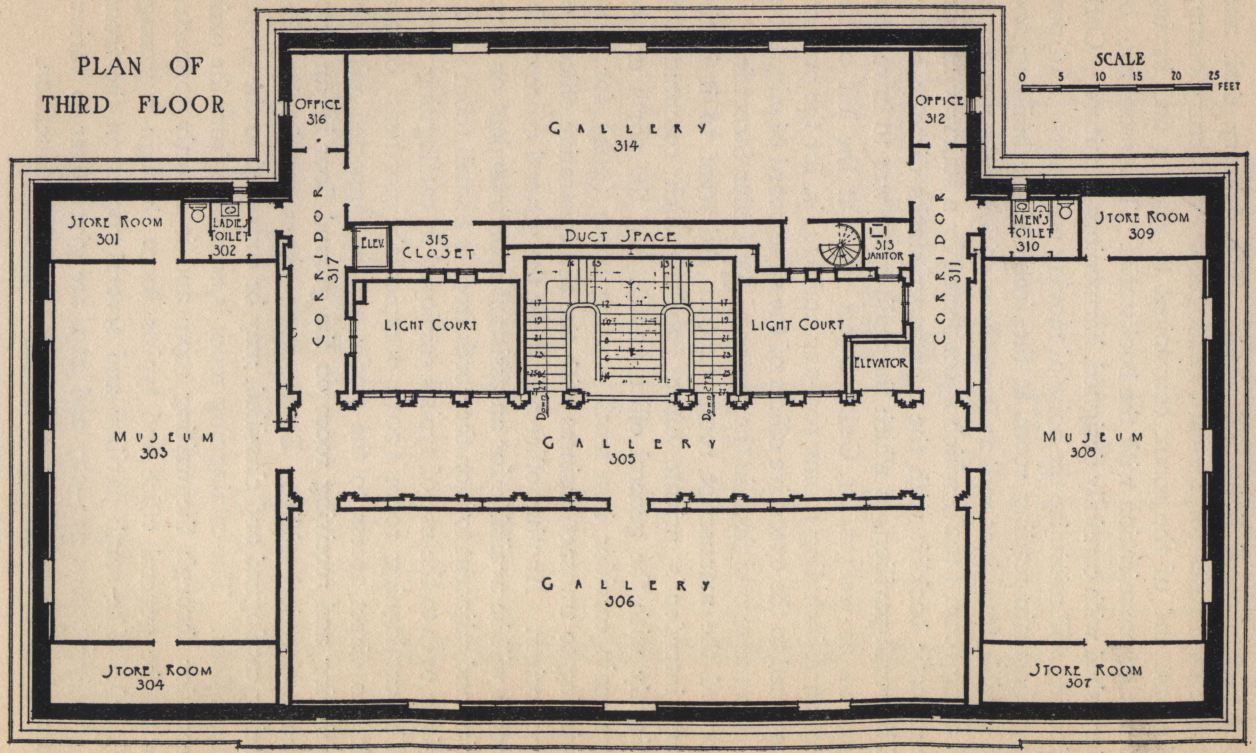
The quality of restraint thus encountered on the very threshold is felt throughout the building. Passing through the vestibule (103), we enter directly the vaulted entrance hall (104)—the main artery of the building. In the center, on the east side, a generous marble staircase, with a decorative bronze rail, gives access to the stories above and below. On either side of the stairway are large light courts which extend from the ground floor to the glass roof of the attic space, serving to light the interior rooms. The north doorway opens into the main reading room (101), a room depending largely upon carefully studied proportion and simple, unbroken wall spaces for its effectiveness. The monotony is relieved by bookshelves of oak which form a dado around the room, and by a splendid ceiling


PLAN OF
SECOND FLOOR
SCALE
0 5 10 15 20 25
FEET
STUDY
STUDY
BOOK STACK ROOM
220
LIFT
ELEV
CATALOGUING ROOM
201
LADIES TOILET
221
LIGHT COURT
LIGHT COURT
VAULT
219
ELEVATOR
JANITOR
218
COMMISSIONER
OF
SCHOOL BUILDINGS
217
CORRIDOR
210
TYPISTS
202
PASSAGE
203
WAITING
ROOM
204
CLO
CLO
CLO
ASST SUPT
205
GENERAL
OFFICE
206
TOILET
207
SUPERINTENDENT'S
208
OFFICE
MANUSCRIPT ROOM
209
EMPLOYMENT BUREAU
AND
TEACHERS PENSION
211
OFFICE
212
PASSAGE
216
OFFICE
215
OFFICE
214
OFFICE
213
CLO
CLO

of decorative plaster, in which color is so disposed as to give beautiful play of light and shade. The delivery desk and ample card cases for the card catalogue of the library occupy the east end of the room, convenient to readers and having direct communication with the bookstacks. The room is to be furnished with carefully designed, harmonious furniture. Cork flooring will minimize the noise of moving occupants. Adjoining the main reading room at the front of the building and accessible from it as well as from the corridor is the newspaper reading room (102), which is connected by a stairway and an automatic booklift with the newspaper stacks directly below. The south pavilion, in which the auditorium was to have been located, as well as the Cedar Street front at the left of the entrance, including rooms 105–112 and 114, is, for the present, assigned to the executive offices of the state board of education.

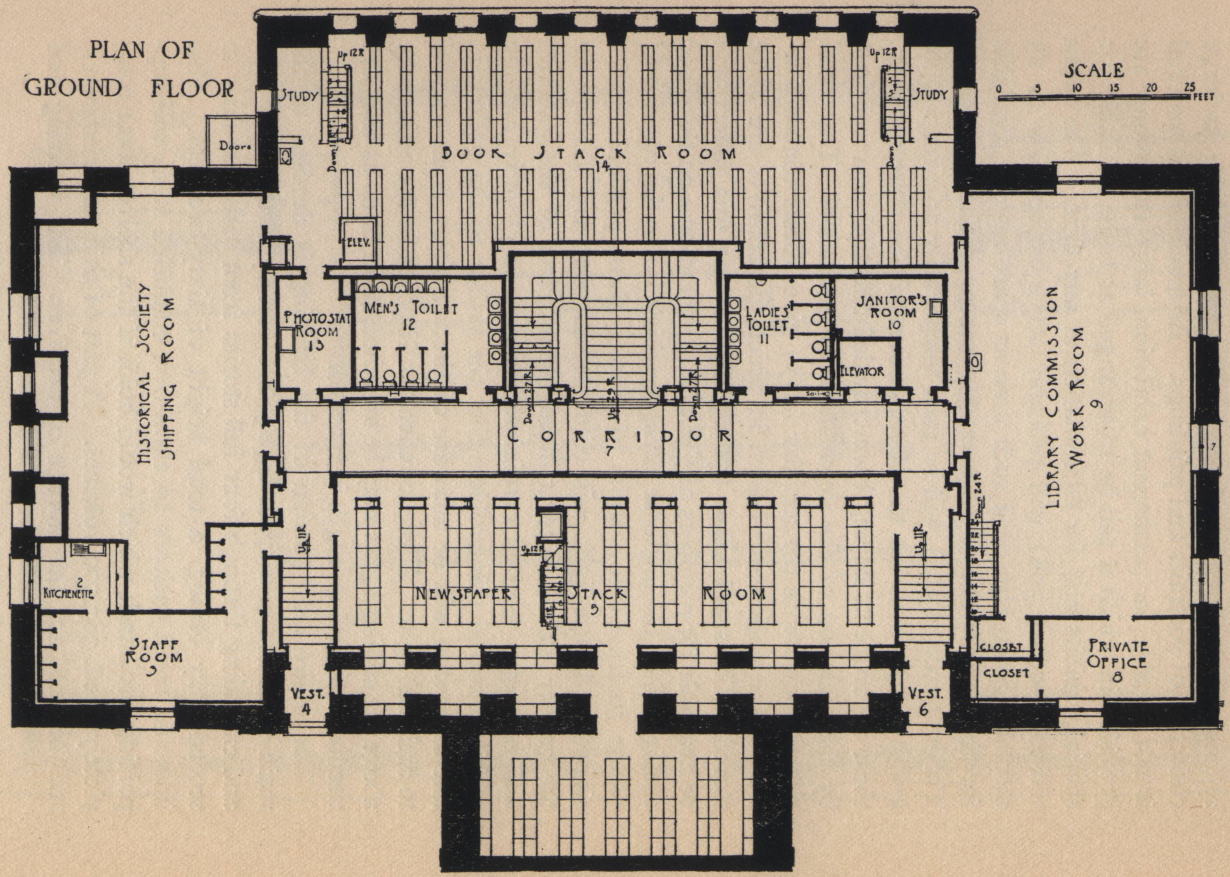
On the second floor in the center of the Cedar Street front is located the manuscript room (209). Adjacent to it is the superintendent's private office (208), which communicates directly with the general office (206). At the north end of the main corridor is a small waiting room (204) for those wishing to transact business with the administrative officers of the society. Another office adjoining the general office on the north will be available for an assistant superintendent or librarian and adjacent to it on the north front is a small room (202) given over to the use of typists employed in cataloguing work. The cataloguing room (201) occupies the northeast corner. It has direct access to the stacks and is connected with the shipping and receiving room on the ground floor by an automatic electric booklift. By the same means new books, after being catalogued and classified, may be conveyed to the proper stack floor. The cataloguing room is accessible from the main corridor through the waiting room and is directly connected with the general office and typists room through a passage (203). The south pavilion and several rooms on the front, including rooms 211–217 and 219, are given over to various bureaus affiliated with the state department of education.

PLAN OF THIRD FLOOR



The third floor will house the extensive historical and archeological museums of the society together with its large collection of portraits and paintings. As much of this material is not suitable for permanent exhibition, large storerooms are provided in which it can be so arranged as to be available for special exhibits and for examination at any time. The south museum room (308) will probably serve on occasion as an assembly room also until such time as space may be available for the installation of an assembly room on the main floor. The east room (314) will be used temporarily as a map room and a work room for the classification of the state archives, these departments having been crowded out of the second floor by the inclusion of the department of education. The small electric elevator in the corridor (317) gives direct communication to the stack room below, in which the archives are to be stored. The small offices (312, 316) flanking this gallery will be available for members of the staff. The rooms on this floor are lighted by the immense skylight which forms the upper half of the roof. Ceiling lights of syenite glass, particularly designed to diffuse light, will eliminate all glare and shadow on the gallery walls. The artificial illumination of the galleries and museums merited careful study, and so cleverly has the architect solved this problem that the visitor to the gallery in late afternoon will be unaware of the transition from natural to artificial light. Electric reflectors disposed in the attic space above the ceiling lights may be switched on in units as they are needed until full strength is reached.

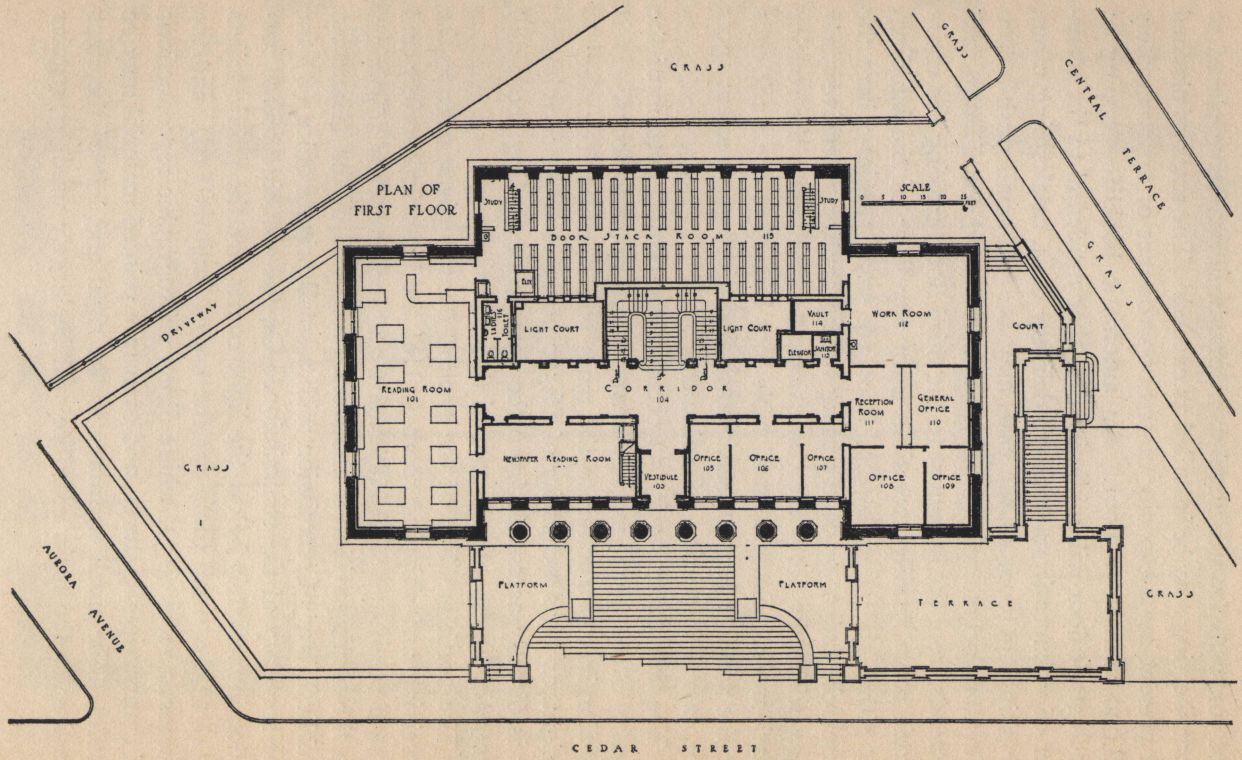
The entire rear portion of the building is devoted to the main stack room, a space eighty-two feet by twenty-nine feet and extending through four full stories from basement floor to second-story ceiling, a total height of sixty-two feet. This immense room encloses an eight-tier, enameled steel, self-supporting bookstack which would hold, if the shelves were completely filled, 383,500 volumes. A part of this stack, however, will be used for the storage of archives. The shelving and


PLAN OF
GROUND FLOOR
SCALE
0 5 10 15 20 25 FEET
STUDY
STUDY
Doors
BOOK STACK ROOM
14
ELEV.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SHIPPING ROOM
PHOTOSTAT ROOM
13
MEN'S TOILET
12
LADIES' TOILET
11
JANITOR'S ROOM
10
ELEVATOR
CORRIDOR
7
LIBRARY COMMISSION
WORK ROOM
9
KITCHENETTE
2
NEWSPAPER STACK ROOM
5
STAFF ROOM
3
VEST.
4
VEST.
6
CLOSET
CLOSET
PRIVATE OFFICE
8

floors for the lower four tiers are to be omitted under the present contract, the structural members, however, being placed so that shelving may be installed as needed. The stack as planned at present has a capacity of 192,000 volumes or approximately 48,000 volumes a floor. An automatic booklift stopping at each stack floor will minimize the labor incidental to the transfer of volumes from stacks to delivery desk, cataloguing room, or shipping room as the case may be. A small push-button elevator for the use of stack attendants and the library staff extends from the basement to the third floor, making the entire stack room readily accessible from any floor of the building. At either end of each stack floor are small studies where the research student or others using the library for extensive study may withdraw from the confusion attendant upon the routine stack work. Several small table tops hinged to the stack ends in the window bays on each stack floor form convenient spots for casual inspection of volumes.

The newspaper stack (5) occupies the central portion of the Cedar Street front in the basement and ground floors. It is similar in construction to the main bookstack, is four tiers in height, and has a capacity of 16,500 bound newspaper volumes. It is directly accessible from the newspaper reading room and from the basement and ground floor corridors.

The north pavilion of the ground floor is given over to the receiving and shipping room (1) of the historical society and a staff room (3) with kitchenette and locker rooms adjoining. In the south pavilion is the work room (9) of the Minnesota Public Library Commission with a small private office (8) for the secretary of the commission. On the east side of the corridor immediately below the light courts are the public toilets (11, 12), a small room for the use of janitors (10), and the photostat room (13), where direct photographic reproductions of manuscripts, pictures, and even rare printed material may be made. The small entrances to the right and left of the steps leading to the main entrance will be largely used by regular


PLAN OF
FIRST FLOOR
SCALE
GRASS
GRASS
CENTRAL TERRACE
GRASS
DRIVEWAY
Study
Study
DOOR, ITHACA ROOM 115
Light Court
Light Court
Vault 114
Work Room 112
Court
Men
Women
Toilet
Toilet
Janitor 113
Elevator
READING ROOM 101
CORRIDOR 104
Reception Room 111
General Office 110
NEWSPAPER READING ROOM
VESTIBULE 103
Office 105
Office 106
Office 107
Office 108
Office 109
GRASS
AURORA AVENUE
PLATFORM
PLATFORM
TERRACE
GRASS
CEDAR STREET

habitués of the building, the elevator and main staircase being but a few steps distant from either entrance.

In the basement, immediately underneath the work room of the library commission and connected with it by stairway, is the shipping room of this department. A fortunate difference in the grades of Aurora Avenue and Central Boulevard enabled the architect so to design the service driveway in the rear of the building as to make the shipping rooms of the historical society and the library commission, though located on different floors, readily accessible for incoming or outgoing packages.

The building is connected with the power plant of the Capitol by a concrete tunnel extending under Aurora Avenue, through which heat, light, and power will be conducted to the mechanical equipment room in the basement and thence will be distributed to the various parts of the structure. Six large fans will furnish washed, fresh air to each room, being connected in such manner as to allow the various rooms to be heated to different temperatures as may be desired. The latest improvements in ingenious mechanical devices are provided for the convenience of the public and the staff. These include a complete system of private telephones affording communication between all departments of the society, automatic time clocks in the important rooms, and a powerful vacuum-cleaning plant to facilitate the work of the caretakers.

The plans having been accepted by all parties concerned, the architect advertised for bids, and on November 30, 1915, the general construction contract was awarded to the George J. Grant Construction Company of St. Paul. The letting of the contracts for mechanical equipment followed soon after, and on December 7 the wrecking of the house on the site and the work of excavation were begun. This work was completed and the tunnel to the heating plant constructed during the winter, and at the present writing the foundation is nearing completion. The contracts call for the completion of the building on or before October 1, 1917, and if no unexpected obstacles are

encountered, it may be finished several months before that date. Then for the first time the historical society will have a suitable home, adequate, for the present at least, for its library and other activities, and comparable to the buildings erected for similar purposes in the other states of the West.

STIRLING HORNER

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

History of Stearns County, Minnesota. By WILLIAM BELL MITCHELL. In two volumes. (Chicago, H. C. Cooper Jr. and Company, 1915. xv, xii, 1536 p. Illustrated)

These two formidable-looking volumes, comprising some fifteen hundred pages in all, are an important addition to the literature of Minnesota local history. The author is himself a pioneer. Coming to Minnesota in 1857, he worked as surveyor, teacher, and printer until such time as he was able to acquire the *St. Cloud Democrat.* He later changed the name of the paper to the *St. Cloud Journal,* and, after his purchase of the *St. Cloud Press* in 1876, consolidated the two under the name *St. Cloud Journal-Press,* of which he remained editor and owner until 1892. During this period he found time also to discharge the duties of receiver of the United States land office at St. Cloud, and to serve as member of the state normal board. It would appear, then, that Mr. Mitchell, both by reason of his long residence in Stearns County and of his editorial experience, was preëminently fitted for the task of writing the volumes under review. Moreover, he has had the assistance of many of the prominent men of the county in preparing the general chapters of the work. Among these may be noted chapters 2–6, dealing with the history of Minnesota as a whole during the pre-territorial period, by Dr. P. M. Magnusson, instructor in history and social science in the St. Cloud Normal; a chapter on "The Newspaper Press" by Alvah Eastman of the *St. Cloud Journal-Press;* one on "Banks and Banking" by W. W. Smith of the First National Bank, St. Cloud; one on "Bench and Bar" by J. E. Jenks, city attorney of St. Cloud; and one on "Stearns County Schools" by County Superintendent W. A. Boerger.

As a whole, the work has the familiar features of the generality of county histories. Such chapter headings as "County Government," "Court House and Jail," "Political History," "Incidents and Events," "Physicians and Surgeons," "Tragic Events," "Fire Losses," and "Cyclone Disasters," indicate the similarity in

character between this history and others of its kind. The biographies, on the other hand, are in five chapters, scattered through the two volumes instead of grouped together at the end or in a separate volume. The account of the Catholic Church in Stearns County and of the various institutions established by it is rather more extended than one would expect. The list of forgotten names and places (chapter 12), the reminiscences of General C. C. Andrews (chapter 14), the description of methods of early travel and transportation (chapter 26), and the historical sketch of early St. Cloud (chapter 52)—these chapters should have more than a merely local interest. In them one comes into closest touch with the life of the pioneers. The following description of post-office facilities in the early days of St. Cloud affords an enlightening glimpse into the life of the past: "The building was of logs 16 x 24 feet in size. . . . The mail was kept in a small box under the counter and all persons helped themselves. . . . The mail was carried from St. Paul in a two-horse hack and delivered semi-weekly. The hack did not cross the river at St. Cloud, but left the mail bag at a log hotel on the east bank of the river, and any person coming over brought the mail" (p. 1427).

No effort has been made to tell the story of the progress of settlement in this region. For the general reader such a narrative would have been of special interest because of the very large German element in its population. Thirty-two per cent of the people of Stearns County are of German descent. In 1860, if one may judge from an inspection of the biographies of the pioneers contained in the present work, the proportion of Germans in the population must have been even greater. The bulk of this immigration seems to have come in the fifties. At the same time there was a considerable influx of the New England element. Other racial elements followed later.

The author states that "the aim of this work has been to gather facts, as full and reliable in their nature as possible, for permanent preservation." A more rigorous process of selection might have cut down the size of the book without omitting much of real value; indeed, it might have made the book more valuable in some respects. The reader misses the personal and intimate element which he would expect to find, especially in those matters

that the author was fitted by past experience to write about—the St. Cloud Normal School, for instance, or the newspapers of the county. As a whole, however, the people of Stearns County should find this work both interesting and valuable.

CHARLES B. KUHLMANN

Journal of Geography. Volume 14, number 6. *Minnesota Number.* Under the editorial direction of PROFESSOR C. J. POSEY. (Madison, University of Wisconsin, February, 1916. Pp. 161–244)

The influence of geography on history is now so well recognized that all interested in the history of Minnesota will welcome this valuable publication in which are presented a score of articles by specialists on various phases of the physical and commercial geography of the state. The first article, by A. Walfred Johnston of the University of Minnesota, a general survey of the physical features of the state, is the best condensed statement of the subject to be found in print. "The Climate of Minnesota" is treated in a separate article by Eugene Van Cleef of the Duluth Normal. The southeastern section of the state is dealt with in a paper by Charles C. Colby on "The Driftless Area of Minnesota a Geographic Unit," in which special attention is devoted to the influence of physiographic factors on the economic development of the region. Stephen S. Visher of the Moorhead Normal presents "Notes on the Geography of the Red River Valley," and other writers deal with "Minneapolis," "St. Paul," "Duluth and the Range Towns," and "The Lesser Cities." Other articles cover such subjects as water resources, iron ores, peat, clays, rock-quarrying, agriculture, soil maps, dairying, fruit-growing, and manufacturing. An article on "The Development of the Lumber Industry in Minnesota," by E. G. Cheyney of the university, is distinctly historical in treatment and indicates the important part which this industry has played in the development of the state. Another suggestive paper of special historical interest is "Geographic Influences in the Exploration and Early Development of Minnesota" by C. J. Posey, also of the university.

The editors of the *Journal* are quite justified in describing this Minnesota number as "a valuable handbook of geographical

information." They and the special editor are to be congratulated on the high quality of the material presented, for the papers as a rule are not only accurate but interesting. A large edition has been prepared with the object of having copies available for Minnesota teachers and schools, and it is to be hoped that advantage will be taken of the opportunity. Single copies are sold at fifteen cents, six at seventy cents, and ten or more to a single address at ten cents each.

S. J. B.

Acta et Dicta: A Collection of Historical Data regarding the Origin and Growth of the Catholic Church in the Northwest. Volume 4, number 1. (St. Paul, Catholic Historical Society, July, 1915. 184 p.)

The Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul has been in existence now for eleven years and has issued this publication annually since 1907 with the exceptions of 1912 and 1913. Each volume consists of two of these issues. The most valuable article in the 1915 issue is "The History of the Diocese of St. Paul" by Rev. Francis J. Schaefer. In this is sketched the early missionary activity of the French in the upper Mississippi Valley, followed by a more detailed account of the development of the diocese under its various bishops. Based largely on original material, the article is a real contribution to the history of Minnesota. Other articles included are: "Very Reverend Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli, O. P.," an account and appreciation of the services of this pioneer priest in the Northwest by Archbishop Ireland, and "The Prophecy," an address by Bishop Thomas O'Gorman delivered before the South Dakota Historical Society in 1903. The latter is a superficial account of French explorations in the Minnesota and Dakota region, in which the remarkable statement is made that "from the day Spain occupied Mexico until the relinquishment to France, that is for about three hundred years, all of the land west of the [Mississippi] river was Spanish territory" (p. 25). Surely the bishop is aware that the French held Louisiana from 1699 to 1762, when the part west of the river, together with the island of New Orleans on the east side, was

ceded to Spain. The transfer of this territory from Spain to France just before it was purchased by the United States, was, therefore, a retrocession.

The "Chronicle of Current Events" occupies about half of this number and is devoted largely to matters connected with the dedication of the new cathedral in St. Paul. Of especial historical interest are Archbishop Ireland's sermon preached at the final services in the old cathedral, and a "Brief History of the Cathedral Project." The accounts of various other dedications and jubilees contain some historical and biographical material, including brief histories of the parish of St. Mary at Lake City and of Bethlehem Academy at Faribault. The section devoted to necrology contains biographical sketches of several northwestern priests recently deceased, and the number closes with continuations from the previous issue of lists of the contents of the society's library and museum.

The Catholics of the state have reason to be proud of their historical society and its publications. The time may come in Minnesota, as it appears to be coming in Indiana and some of the other states, when the various Protestant denominations will devote some attention to their history. Only when all of the strands are made available can the history of a community be properly woven.

S. J. B.

Compendium of History and Biography of Carver and Hennepin Counties, Minnesota. By MAJOR R. I. HOLCOMBE, historical editor, and WILLIAM H. BINGHAM, general editor. (Chicago, Henry Taylor and Company, 1915. viii, 342 p. Illustrated)

The first 185 pages of this book are reprinted, page for page, from the historical part of the *Compendium of History and Biography of Minneapolis and Hennepin County* published in 1914. The remainder of the work is devoted to Carver County and is divided about equally between history and biographies. The historical section opens with a description of the county and an account of the early explorers and fur-traders. The beginnings of settlement and county organization are then taken up, followed

by a chapter of miscellanies of early history. One chapter is devoted to transportation routes, three to historical sketches of the townships and villages, and the final chapter to the record of soldiers from the county in the Civil War. Had a larger number of the good people of Carver County subscribed for the volume, they would doubtless have received a more comprehensive, if not a more adequate, "history."

S. J. B.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

At the annual meeting of the executive council of the society on February 28, the superintendent read a paper on "Some Aspects of Lincoln's Career as a Whig Politician." The stated meeting of the council on April 10 was open to the public, and an audience of over a hundred, which filled the reading room to overflowing, assembled to hear "A Sketch of the Sioux Massacre of 1862," presented by Mr. Marion P. Satterlee of Minneapolis, who has given considerable attention to the collection of new material on this subject. The paper was illustrated with lantern slides. It is of interest to note that there were in the audience quite a number of people who played a part in the events of the outbreak. Among them were: George A. Brackett, quartermaster of General Sibley's expedition of 1863, who was with Lieutenant Ambrose Freemen when the latter was killed, and who hid from the Indians on the prairie for several days before regaining the command; Charles S. Plummer, a member of the Sibley expedition of 1863; Oliver P. Dutton, who was in the United States secret service, and was present at the execution of the thirty-eight Indians at Mankato, December 26, 1862; Milton Stubbs, a member of Strout's Company, who took part in the engagement with the Indians at Acton, September 3, 1862; Margaret King Horan, a refugee at Fort Ridgely throughout the siege; Mary E. Schwandt Schmidt, who was taken captive by the Indians and was among those liberated at Camp Release by General Sibley and his command; Amelia Busse Reynolds, who was captured at Middle Creek, August 18, 1862, and was among those held at Camp Release; and Nathan Butler, a civil engineer, who built the cabin at Acton in which the first killing of the whites occurred.

Through the United Press the society is furnishing to many of the evening papers of the state a series of daily items of from fifty to seventy-five words each on "Minnesota Geographic Names and Their Historical Significance." Most of the data for this series are supplied by Mr. Upham. The items are being used

by the following papers: *Rochester Post and Record, Red Wing Republican, Mankato Free Press, Mankato Review, St. Cloud Journal-Press, St. Cloud Times, Minneapolis Journal, Minneapolis Tidende, St. Paul News, Virginian* (Virginia), *Bemidji Pioneer, Crookston Times, Moorhead News, Fergus Falls Journal, Brainerd Dispatch,* and possibly by others. The fifteen listed have a combined circulation of about half a million. Each item carries at the head a line giving credit to the Minnesota Historical Society for the preparation of the material. It is believed that this enterprise will have two advantages: It will tend to promote an interest in Minnesota history, and it will bring the society to the attention of the people of the state.

Attention has been already called to the plan of the society for developing a great collection of material relating to the Scandinavians in the United States. Recently an arrangement was made with the regents of the University of Minnesota by which the field of Scandinavian material was divided between the libraries of the university and of the Minnesota Historical Society. It is now understood that the university will confine its collection in this field to Scandinavian languages and literatures and materials relating to the history of the Scandinavian countries themselves, while the society will collect materials relating to these peoples in America. In accordance with this understanding the university library turned over to the society the extensive and valuable O. N. Nelson collection which it has possessed for a number of years. In exchange for this material the university will receive from the library of the society an equivalent from its duplicates and from material which is outside its proper scope.

The Taylor Papers

Mrs. Charles L. Alden, who was Mary Langford Taylor, a daughter of Consul James W. Taylor, was a recent visitor at the rooms of the society and told of the circumstances attending the deposit of the Taylor Papers with the society. It seems that after Taylor's death in April, 1893, all of his papers, which were very bulky because he saved everything, were shipped to Mrs. Alden at her home in Troy, New York. Governor William R.

Marshall was then acting as secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society and suggested to Mrs. Alden that such of the papers as were of historical importance should be turned over to the society. For two or three months she spent several hours a day going through the mass of material and destroying what seemed to be too personal or inconsequential to make its preservation desirable. The remainder was packed in a trunk and shipped to the society and Governor Marshall receipted for it. Shortly afterwards he resigned his position as secretary and removed to California, and the trunk appears to have rested undisturbed in a storeroom in the Old Capitol until its discovery a little over a year ago.

The publication of the sketch of Consul Taylor in the BULLETIN has attracted considerable attention both in Canada and the United States. The *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg in its issue of February 26 contained a review of the article by Isaac Cowie, and a longer review, with extensive extracts, also by Mr. Cowie, appeared in the March issue of the *Western Home Monthly,* a magazine published in Winnipeg. The latter notice is accompanied by reproductions of pictures of Taylor, the steamboat "Anson Northrup," Fort Pembina, and "Riel at exercise in prison yard at Regina, 1885."

Since the publication of the bibliography of Taylor's writings in the November issue of the BULLETIN, the following additional items have come to light:

The October election; how can a Democrat most effectually support the government and the Union by his vote? [St. Paul, Press Printing Company, pr., 1861.] 7 p.

A reprint of a series of communications signed "A Democrat," which appeared in the *St. Paul Daily Press*, September 14, 15, and 17, 1861. Taylor's authorship of the series is established by the notation "By J. W. Taylor of St. Paul" in his own hand below the title on the copy of the pamphlet in volume 31 of the Donnelly Pamphlets.

[Address on the relations of British America and the United States.] *Proceedings of the International Commercial Convention . . . Portland, Me., August 4th and 5th, 1868,* 42–50. (Portland, B. Thurston & Company, pr., 1868. 160 p.).

Gifts

General Charles H. Whipple of Los Angeles has presented the original draft of a report on the Indians and the causes of the Sioux War made to the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in 1868 by his father Bishop Whipple; also a volume containing fifteen pamphlets, mostly addresses of Bishop Whipple, and a set of the *Memoirs* of General William T. Sherman containing autographic inscriptions in each volume. The inscription in the first of these volumes reads: "To Maj. C. H. Whipple, son of my great and good Friend Bishop Whipple of Minnesota, with love and veneration for the father and earnest wishes for the honor and happiness of the son. W. T. Sherman, General. New York, Oct. 9, 1886."

The society is receiving the issues of the *Eau Claire* (Wisconsin) *Telegram* containing a series of historical and reminiscent articles relating to early lumbering activities in the Chippewa Valley. The articles are illustrated with old photographs, and throw considerable light on the characteristics of this important pioneer industry not only in this region but in the entire Northwest. Mr. William Bartlett of Eau Claire is responsible for the articles and is assisting the society to secure a complete file. Mr. Bartlett recently acquired for the Wisconsin Historical Society several large and valuable collections of the papers of early lumbering companies. It is to be hoped that similar collections of some of the Minnesota companies and of individuals prominent in the industry may in time be received by the Minnesota Historical Society.

Four manuscript books containing accounts and lists of members of the *Skandinaviske Arbeiderforening,* or Scandinavian Workingmen's Society, of Minneapolis, which appears to have flourished from 1885 to 1901, have been received from Mr. Thorwald E. Nelson of Minneapolis. Mr. Nelson has also presented a manuscript copy of his speech at the unveiling of the monument to Rev. M. Falk Gjertsen in Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis, September 12, 1915, and a partial file of souvenir programs of various Scandinavian and Norwegian singers' associations. Additional issues of these programs have been received

from others, but the following are still lacking: United Scandinavian Singers' Association, first, second, fifth, and sixth; Northwestern Scandinavian Singers' Association, first to fifth inclusive; Norwegian Singers' Association of America, thirteenth; and Red River Valley Scandinavian Singers' Association, first. Persons having copies of any of these issues are urged to send them in for preservation in the society's library.

The project of preparing a collection of photographs of prominent citizens of Minnesota for the society, which has been undertaken by Lee Brothers of Minneapolis, has made considerable progress, and fifty-six photographs have been received. These are very fine pictures, and each is accompanied by data of a biographical character supplied by the subject. Many more pictures have been taken for the collection but have not yet been completed and turned over to the society. Four of the pictures designed for the collection were reproduced in the rotogravure section of the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* of April 23.

Learning that Mr. John R. Cummins of Minneapolis possessed a set of diaries which he had kept for about sixty years and which he might be willing to present to the society, the superintendent visited Mr. Cummins and readily persuaded him to turn over the set, which begins in 1855 and continues to the present. Mr. Cummins came to Minnesota from Pennsylvania in 1856 and located on a farm at Eden Prairie. Later he was a farmer for the Ojibway Indians at Leech Lake for a time. While much of the material in the diaries relates to the weather and daily occupations, material by the way which is sometimes of considerable use, they contain also occasional items of especial importance, such as contemporary references to the constitutional convention in 1857 and to the battle of Shakopee between the Ojibways and Dakotas.

From Hon. John R. Swann, mayor of Madison, Minnesota, has been received a letter written by Stephen R. Riggs of Lac qui Parle on November 19, 1850, to S. L. Babcock, Esq. It contains sketches of "the first settlement of Lac qui Parle," "Lac qui Parle mission station," and the "first corn mill in Minnesota." This letter had been sent to Mayor Swann by Mrs. Elisabeth von

Wedelstaedt Lambert of White Bear, Minnesota. In acknowledging the donation, the superintendent wrote to Mrs. Lambert as well as to Mayor Swann, and as a result of the correspondence thus opened, the society has received from Mrs. Lambert quite a number of other donations of interest and value, including three Mexican figurines, a Mexican sombrero, an African hat, a Dakota Indian bow and two arrows, and other museum items, some documents relating to Count Heinrich von Wedelstaedt of Indiana, a collection of election tickets, programs, and newspaper clippings, and a broadside entitled "St. Paul, Minnesota in its Infancy."

In the last number of the BULLETIN announcement was made of the gift of a copy of *The First Minnesota* published "by a detachment of the typographical fraternity of the First Minnesota Regiment" at Berryville, Virginia, March 11, 1862. This copy, it appears, is a facsimile made about 1895, but the society has since received from Mr. Edward A. Stevens of Minneapolis, who was one of the "detachment," his copies of the original of this issue and also of a second issue dated March 13. Mr. Stevens believes that there are only four or five originals of the first issue in existence, and that this copy of the second issue is unique.

Some specimens of early eighteenth-century builders' hardware have been presented by Mr. Herbert C. Varney of St. Paul. They comprise nails, spikes, and hinges, all handmade, which "were taken from timbers forming the ell of the house built in Stratham, New Hampshire, about the year 1710, by 'Judge' Andrew Wiggin, grandson of Thomas Wiggin, first governor of the settlements on the Piscataqua River, now New Hampshire, and also a grandson of Anne Bradstreet, the first New England poetess. The main part of the house is still standing much in its original condition."

From Mr. Cyrus R. Stone of St. Paul has been received a collection of letters and a diary written while he was serving as a soldier in the Sixteenth New York Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War; also a manuscript narrative of his observations and experiences during the war based in part on the contemporary

letters. Mr. Stone is about to move to Briar Hill, St. Lawrence County, New York.

Three invoices of 1864, listing goods sold to "H. C. Smith & Co." by "J. L. Forepaugh & Co., Jobbers of Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, Yankee Notions, &c.," by "Borup & Champlin, Wholesale Grocers, Forwarding and Commission Merchants," and by "Beaupre & Kelly, Wholesale Grocers, Forwarding & Commission Merchants," all of St. Paul, have been presented by Mr. J. P. Funk. They throw an interesting light on prices during the Civil War period.

Mr. W. W. Cutler of St. Paul has presented a file of the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine* from its beginning in 1892 to the present date, twenty-four volumes, and has agreed to keep up the file in the future. The *Harvard Graduates' Magazine* is quite different from the usual alumni publication, and this file will be a valuable addition to the library.

An interesting addition to the museum is a brilliant red military coat which was worn in the War of 1812 by Erastus Root, brigadier general of the New York militia and at one time lieutenant governor of New York. The coat is a gift from Mr. Asher Murray of Wadena, Minnesota.

From Judge John W. Willis of St. Paul has been received a wall map of St. Anthony and Minneapolis in 1856, "compiled, drawn & published by Chapman & Curtis, Civil Engineers, Draughtsmen & Land Agents, St. Anthony Falls, Minnesota." The scale is five hundred feet to the inch.

Governor Burnquist has turned over to the society the engrossed and duly authenticated copy of the concurrent resolution adopted by the United States Senate and House of Representatives on March 11, 1916, accepting from the state of Minnesota the statue of Henry Mower Rice to be placed in Statuary Hall.

A foot muff of olden times, a photograph of Fifth Street, St. Paul, in 1866, and a large number of miscellaneous books and pamphlets have been presented by Mrs. George E. Tuttle of Minneapolis.

Mr. Frederick G. Ingersoll has presented a framed picture of the members of the Old Settlers' Association of Minnesota taken at the time of the annual meeting in 1885.

From Miss Rhoda Emery of St. Paul has been received a collection of letters written by her grandfather, James George of Ohio, and recounting his experiences in the Mexican War.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The year 1919 will mark the one hundredth anniversary of American occupation of Minnesota. Although the part of the state east of the Mississippi was nominal American territory from 1783 and that west of the river from 1803, and although an American expedition under Lieutenant Pike visited the upper Mississippi in 1805–06, the United States exercised no regular jurisdiction over the region, and no American citizens resided in it until the arrival of the troops for the establishment of a military post at the mouth of the Minnesota River in 1819. A number of states are now celebrating the centennial of their admission to the Union—of their coming of age, as it were. Minnesota has an opportunity to celebrate in the near future the centennial of her birth as an American community—to call attention to the fact that here a wilderness occupied only by Indians and occasional fur-traders owing allegiance to a foreign power has, in the course of a century, been transformed into a highly organized industrial and agricultural state. If such a celebration is to be undertaken, the plans should be worked out as soon as possible. In Illinois preparations for the centennial to take place in 1918 began six years ago.

The Mississippi Valley Historical Association held its ninth annual meeting at Nashville, Tennessee, April 27–29. The program provided for a large number of papers among which were two of special interest to Minnesota: "Some Verendrye Enigmas," by O. G. Libby of the University of North Dakota, and "An Historical Survey of the Region about the Mouth of the Wisconsin River," by Althea R. Sherman of National, Iowa. The latter was read by title only. One session of the association, held in connection with a subscription luncheon, was devoted to reports on state celebrations. Indiana is now celebrating her centennial, and Mississippi, Illinois, Alabama, and Missouri will follow in rapid succession, while Nebraska is planning a semi-centennial celebration. At the close of this session J. W. Oliver of the

Indiana State Library read a suggestive paper on "The Position of the Historian in the Observance of Statehood Centennials."

The social features of the meeting were especially pleasant, including a luncheon given by Vanderbilt University and the George Peabody College for Teachers, and receptions tendered by the Tennessee Historical Society and by the Centennial Club of Nashville. One forenoon was devoted to a very delightful trip by automobiles to the Hermitage, which is kept up by the Ladies' Hermitage Association as a memorial to President Jackson and as a museum of Jackson relics.

At the business session of the association Frederic L. Paxson of the University of Wisconsin was elected president for the ensuing year; Clarence S. Paine of the Nebraska Historical Society remains secretary-treasurer; and the newly elected members of the executive committee are St. George L. Sioussat of Vanderbilt University, Edgar R. Harlan of the Historical Department of Iowa, Eugene M. Violette of the Kirksville Normal, Missouri, Archer B. Hulbert of Marietta University, and Clarence W. Alvord of the University of Illinois. The new members of the board of editors, which now has charge of all of the publications of the association, including the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review,* as chosen by the executive committee, are Isaac J. Cox of Cincinnati University, St. George L. Sioussat of Vanderbilt University, Lawrence J. Burpee of Ottawa, Canada, and Solon J. Buck of the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota.

State Supported Library Activities in the United States, by Edna D. Bullock, issued as number 9 of the *Bulletins* of the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau (October, 1915. 71 p.), is a useful compilation of conditions, opinions, and statistics relative to "state libraries, state law libraries, state historical society libraries and museums, legislative reference bureaus, library extension and traveling libraries." The conclusion is reached that, so far as local conditions will permit, the concentration of the state's activities along these lines is desirable, and there appears to be a tendency in that direction. Particularly valuable and efficient work is done in New York and California, where there is complete concentration, but the work in Wisconsin

also is commended although managed by three distinct, though coöperating, agencies. From the statistics it would appear that only seven states have more books available in their state-supported libraries of the classes dealt with than has Minnesota. These are Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin. Minnesota's annual appropriations for the work of these agencies are exceeded, however, by those of ten states: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. It will be noted that this list includes most of Minnesota's neighbors to the east and south. In four states, California, New York, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, the appropriations are over twice those of Minnesota.

The following item clipped from *London Tit-Bits* shows the way in which England looks after the preservation of public records. To any one familiar with the condition of American state and national archives, the contrast is striking.

"Unknown to the millions who pass through the city of London every week, a work of unparalleled magnitude at what is known as the public record office in Chancery lane, has been going on for a number of years. In this office there are 25 miles of shelves, all full of historical material, going back through the centuries as far as 'Domesday Book.'

"It costs over £26,000 a year to keep up the record office, the keeper of the records being the master of the rolls. The office was established by the public records act in 1838, and the records were taken there from the tower, the chapter house, Westminster, the rolls chapel, and elsewhere. Ever since that time the office has been constantly receiving accretion from the law courts, the government departments, and from various other quarters.

"All sorts of records are kept, legal, historical, genealogical, statistical and so varied are the contents of the office that antiquarian research of almost every kind can be made. There you will find the records of the star chamber and the old wards and liveries. State papers, domestic, colonial and foreign, formerly preserved in the state paper office in Whitehall, are also to be seen there. Usually 50 or 60 students are seen working

in the record office every day, and at any time there is the fascinating thought that one of them may make some interesting historical discovery."

The Canadian Parliament Buildings in Ottawa were destroyed by fire on February 4. Fortunately the Parliament Library escaped with comparatively small losses, but many important records in the offices must have been burned. The bulk of the archives, however, which are of great historical value not only for Canada but also for the United States, were safe in the special building which the Canadian government has been foresighted enough to construct for their concentration and preservation.

The *Annual Report* of the American Historical Association for 1913 (Washington, 1915. 2 v.) contains a suggestive paper by Worthington C. Ford on "Manuscripts and Historical Archives," in which the progress made in some of the eastern states toward adequate care of public records is pointed out and the problem discussed of what to save and what to destroy of the rapidly accumulating masses of records and manuscripts. Charles H. Hart's paper on "Frauds in Historical Portraiture, or Spurious Portraits of Historical Personages" illustrates the necessity for the constant maintenance of the critical attitude in historical work. Included in the *Report* are the proceedings of the tenth annual conference of historical societies and the fifth annual conference of archivists. The former contains a paper by Clarence W. Alvord on "Planning the Publication Work of Historical Agencies," and the latter includes a number of papers and discussions on problems of archive administration. The conference of archivists has in preparation a primer of archival economy, two chapters of which are included in tentative form in these proceedings. The second volume of the *Report* contains the "Papers of James A. Bayard, 1796–1815," edited by Elizabeth Donnan.

Volume 4 of the *Collections* of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (944 p.) bears the imprint 1913, but the copyright date is 1915, in which year it actually appeared. The volume is edited by Professor O. G. Libby of the University of North Dakota, who is secretary of the society. The articles touching

Minnesota history are: "Location and Survey of the Northern International Boundary Line," by Ethel J. May, and "The Hudson Bay Company and the Red River Trade," by Hattie Listenfelt. The latter paper is accompanied by a documentary appendix of thirty pages. About half of the volume is devoted to documents, including the "Summary of Evidence in the Controversy between The Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Company, Reprinted from Papers relating to the Red River Settlement, 1815–19, Ordered by House of Commons to be printed July 12, 1819"; and "The Minutes of the Council of the Northern Department of Rupert's Land, 1830–1843," with an introduction by Isaac Cowie. It is to be regretted that valuable material of this sort should be printed on such miserably poor paper.

The July, 1915, number of the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society contains a "Biographical Sketch of David B. Sears, Pioneer in the Development and Utilization of the Water Power of the Mississippi and Its Tributaries—Compiled Mainly from Data Supplied by His Son, David Sears, of Sears, Illinois." Mr. Sears began the development of water power at Moline, Illinois, in 1838. In 1852 he was the surveyor-general in charge of the running of the boundary line between Iowa and Minnesota, and in 1856 he bought an interest in the undeveloped water power of the Falls of St. Anthony on the west side of the river. Later he bought the site of Minnetonka City at the outlet of Lake Minnetonka, laid out a town, and erected a sawmill and furniture factory. He then returned to Moline, leaving the venture in the hands of partners, who made a failure of it.

Volume 39 of the *Michigan Historical Collections* (1915. 601 p.) contains, in addition to the report of the Michigan Historical Commission for 1913 and papers and proceedings of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, 1912–14, a "List of Subjects and Authors, Michigan Historical Collections, Volumes 1 to 39." This will be welcomed by investigators who have occasion to use any of the voluminous material contained in the set, but it is to be hoped that the consolidated index, which is promised, will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

The work of the Minnesota State Art Commission is described as a model for other states and especially for North Carolina in

a paper by William C. A. Hammel on "A State Art Commission," which was read at the sixteenth annual session of the State Literary and Historical Association of North Carolina last November. The association adopted a resolution urging the establishment of a similar commission in North Carolina and provided for a committee to draft a bill to effect that end, which is to be submitted to the legislature at its next session. The paper referred to and others of considerable interest, notably "A Western View of Tradition," by Franklin K. Lane, can be found in the *Proceedings* of the association published by the North Carolina Historical Commission as number 20 of its *Bulletins* (1916. 120 p.).

A *Guidebook of the Western United States,* in four parts, has been issued by the United States Geological Survey as numbers 611–614 of its *Bulletins* (1915. 212, 244, 194, 142 p.). "The plan of the series is to present authoritative information that may enable the reader to realize adequately the scenic and material resources of the region he is traversing, to comprehend correctly the basis of its development, and above all to appreciate keenly the real value of the country he looks out upon. . . . Items of interest in civic development or references to significant epochs in the record of discovery and settlement may be interspersed with explanations of mountain and valley or statements of geologic history." Each part deals with the country along an important railway route, including: (A) the Northern Pacific from St. Paul to Seattle, with a side trip to Yellowstone Park; (B) the Overland Route from Omaha to San Francisco, also with a side trip to Yellowstone Park; (C) the Santa Fe from Kansas City to Los Angeles, with a side trip to the Grand Canyon, and (D) the Shasta Route and Coast Line from Seattle to Los Angeles. Each part contains illustrations and a geologic and topographic map of the route in a number of sheets. The first thirty-five pages of part A, with sheets 1 to 4 of the map, cover the Northern Pacific route in Minnesota from St. Paul to Moorhead.

The United States Geological Survey is publishing a series of reports on "Surface Water Supply of the United States," part v of which, issued as number 385 of its *Water Supply Papers* (1915.

247, xxix p.), deals with the "Hudson Bay and Upper Mississippi River Basins." This part was "prepared in coöperation with the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois."

Quaint and Historic Forts of North America, by John Martin Hammond (Philadelphia, Lippincott, 1915. xiv, 309 p.), is a medley of history and description put out in attractive form and designed for popular consumption. It contains a four-page sketch of Fort Snelling, in which the early settlers on the reservation who were evicted by the military authorities are unjustly characterized as "refugees from civilization and disreputable hangers-on."

Considerable scattered information about Minnesota in the 1915 issue of *The American Year Book, a Record of Events and Progress* (1916. 862 p.) can be located by consulting the index. The work is edited by Francis G. Wickware and is now in its sixth issue.

Volume 48 of the *Proceedings* of the United States National Museum (Washington, 1915. x, 672 p.) contains an article on "The Fisher, Polk County, Minnesota, Meteorite."

The *Proceedings* of the Iowa Academy of Science for 1915 (Des Moines. 407 p.) contains a catalogue of "The Flora of the Rainy River Region," by Harriette S. Kellogg.

"How the Furs Came Down from the North Country," by L. A. Chase, in the *History Teacher's Magazine* for February, is a vivid picture of the fur trade in the Northwest in the early days.

The Life and Ventures of the Original John Jacob Astor, by Elizabeth L. Gebhard (Hudson, New York, 1915. xix, 321 p.), will be disappointing to any one who expects to find in it any considerable amount of specific information about the organization and operations of Astor's American Fur Company in the upper Mississippi and Great Lakes region.

"Les médailles décernées aux Indiens d'Amérique, étude historique et numismatique" is the title of a valuable article by Victor Morin in the *Transactions* of the Royal Society of Canada, volume 9, series 3, section 1 (December, 1915). The article is

followed by forty-three figures depicting French, English, Spanish, and American medals designed for distribution among the Indians.

Dr. John O. Evjen, professor of church history in Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, has written a book on *Scandinavian Immigrants in New York, 1630–1674* (Minneapolis, K. C. Holter Publishing Company, 1916. xxiv, 438 p.). Dr. Evjen has collected from widely scattered records a large amount of information about these pioneers of Scandinavian immigration, which is presented in the form of biographies followed by a general discussion entitled "Retrospect." Appendices deal with "Scandinavians in Mexico and South America, 1532–1640; Scandinavians in Canada, 1619–1620; Some Scandinavians in New York in the Eighteenth Century; German Immigrants in New York, 1630–1674." The book is well illustrated with reproductions of old maps, cuts, portraits, and signatures, but unfortunately it has no index.

The Norwegian Farmers in the United States, by T. A. Hoverstad, is a pamphlet issued by the Hans Jervell Publishing Company of Fargo, North Dakota (*c.* 1915. 31 p.). The success of Norwegians as farmers in the Northwest is the subject of the brief text, which is supplemented by numerous illustrations of present-day farm homes of Norwegians, with a few "first houses" included for contrast.

The Skavlem and Ödegaarden Families, Being a Genealogical Record and Pioneer History of the Skavlem and Ödegaarden Families from Their Emigration from Norway down to the Present, written and compiled by Halvor L. Skavlem (1915. 245 p.), contains much material of value to any one interested in the history of the Norwegians in America.

Recollections of a Long Life, 1829–1915, by Isaac Stephenson (Chicago, privately printed, 1915. 264 p.), depicts conditions in the lumbering industry in Maine, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The latter part of the book deals with the senator's political career and presents his side of the various contests and controversies in which he has been involved.

Anglo-American Isthmian Diplomacy, 1815–1915, by Mary Wilhelmine Williams (Washington, 1916. 356 p.), has just been issued by the American Historical Association in its series of prize essays. For the period prior to 1861 the author has made exhaustive use of manuscript materials in British and American archives with the result that new light is shed on many phases of the subject.

It is understood that B. F. Bowen and Company of Indianapolis are compiling historical and biographical material in three counties of southwestern Minnesota: Brown, Cottonwood, and Watonwan. Doubtless the result will be one or more county histories.

On February 21, 1916, Senator Kenyon of Iowa introduced in the United States Senate a bill to establish a national park, to be known as the Mississippi Valley National Park, near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and McGregor, Iowa. This reservation would preserve in all its beauty of scene the spot where, on the fifteenth of June, 1673, Louis Joliet and Pére Marquette got their first glimpse of the Mississippi as, coming down the Wisconsin River, they turned their canoe into the course of the "great river."

The statue of Henry Mower Rice, a gift from the state of Minnesota to the United States, was unveiled in Statuary Hall of the National Capitol on February 8, 1916, in the presence of some two hundred people, including many prominent men from the state and the entire Minnesota delegation in Congress. The exercises incident to the unveiling were presided over by Mr. F. G. Ingersoll of St. Paul, a member of the Rice Memorial Association. The formal presentation address in behalf of the association was made by Senator Nelson, who paid tribute to the man who, representing Minnesota as delegate and senator in Congress from 1853–63, rendered distinguished service to his constituents. The speech of acceptance was given by Vice-president Thomas F. Marshall. The introduction and passage of the concurrent resolution accepting the statue in the name of the United States and offering the thanks of Congress for the gift, was the occasion for commemorative exercises in the Senate on

February 19, when addresses were given by Senators Nelson and Clapp of Minnesota, Underwood of Alabama, Harding of Ohio, and Gallinger of New Hampshire; and in the House of Representatives on March 11, when the Minnesota members, Messrs. Davis, Steenerson, Miller, Volstead, Smith, Lindbergh, Van Dyke, Schall, Anderson, and Ellsworth, spoke briefly on the life and services of Mr. Rice. The addresses were all more or less historical in character, and the story of the rapid development of a commercial and industrial state in a region so recently the home of the Indians, voyageurs, and fur-traders, was listened to with interest. The address of Senator Nelson on February 8 appeared in the February 13 issue of the *Minneapolis Journal,* and the speeches delivered before the Senate and House were printed in the February 19 and March 11 issues of the *Congressional Record.*

The Red River Valley Old Settlers' Association held a reunion at Crookston on February 29, 1916. Following the banquet in the evening, which was attended by about three hundred people, an entertaining program of toasts was given. Among those responding were well-known pioneer settlers who related interesting anecdotes about the early-day history of this region. One of the principal addresses was that of Mr. Elias Steenerson, who, in responding to the toast "Territorial Pioneers," "gave a most instructive and comprehensive talk on territorial Minnesota."

The Anthony Wayne Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Mankato, Minnesota, are planning to present in Sibley Park on July 4 an historical pageant in which events in the early history of the city will be represented. The coöperation of the various clubs and organizations in arranging for the different scenes, and the appointment of a committee from the city council and the Commercial Club to care for all business matters connected with the celebration, have been secured. The following scenes have been suggested for representation: the first inhabitants—Indian life; the coming of the French—Le Sueur; the founding of Mankato and the coming of the first white settlers, February 5, 1852; the arrival of the first Germans, May 30, 1852; the first school in 1853; the arrival of the first Welsh settlers; the departure of the volunteers, April 23, 1861; the

Sioux outbreak, August 23, 1862; the Scandinavian pioneers. Other features of the parade will be "Mankato to-day" and "Made in Mankato" scenes.

Minnesota Publications

The United States Bureau of Education has recently published "for distribution among those who are directly interested in the improvement of rural schools" a monograph entitled *The Rural School System of Minnesota: A Study in School Efficiency* by Harold W. Foght, specialist in rural school practice (*Bulletin,* 1915, no. 20. 56 p.). The rural schools of Minnesota were selected for study and investigation because "perhaps no other State has been quite as successful . . . in establishing a system of schools intended to meet the demands of modern rural life." Special consideration is given to problems of school maintenance, to the kinds of school organizations, including consolidated and associated schools, to agricultural and industrial education, and to rural teacher training departments in high schools. Maps, diagrams, half-tone illustrations, and statistical tables add to the value of the study.

The St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press Almanac and Year-Book for 1916 (640 p.) is the second annual edition. The first part of the book contains general matter of the usual yearbook sort, apparently from the same plates as the *Chicago Daily News Almanac,* but the last hundred pages are devoted specifically to Minnesota, St. Paul, and Minneapolis. The descriptive and statistical matter in these pages will be of use not only to the man of to-day who wants up-to-date information but also to the historical student of the future. It is to be hoped that the series will be continued with careful revisions from year to year.

Minnesota Municipalities is the title of a new publication to be published bi-monthly at the University of Minnesota by the League of Minnesota Municipalities, the first number appearing in February, 1916. It is the intention of the league that the magazine shall contain the papers and discussions of the annual conventions hitherto published in a single volume under the title *Proceedings.* In addition, considerable space in each number will

be given to current municipal affairs and to the practical experiences of the villages and cities of the state in dealing with the problems of municipal administration. The April number contains a timely article on "The Need of a Constitutional Convention in Minnesota" by William A. Schaper, professor of political science in the University of Minnesota. After going briefly into the history of the constitutional convention of 1857, Mr. Schaper discusses the inadequacy of the present constitution to serve the needs of a "great developed state with complex social, industrial, municipal and state problems." The best solution of the problem lies, he believes, in a thorough and systematic revision of the constitution by a convention specially elected for this purpose.

De Lestry's Western Magazine, of which six volumes were published in St. Paul and Minneapolis from 1897 to 1901, was revived last November as the *Western Magazine.* Edward L. De Lestry continues as editor, and many of the articles in the monthly issues are descriptive or historical in character. The Northwest, consisting of Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Montana, is the special field of the magazine. The April issue contains an article on Hastings entitled "Taking a New Look at an Old Town," by C. L. Llewellyn, and a brief sketch of early missions and the beginnings of religious organizations in Minnesota, in the department devoted to "Glimpses into Early Minnesota History."

The March issue of the *M. E. A. News-Letter* is the *Journal of the Proceedings and Addresses* (140 p.) of the fifty-third annual meeting of the Minnesota Educational Association held in Minneapolis, October 27–30, 1915. Among the papers read at the general sessions may be noted: "Sanity in Education," by Governor W. N. Ferris of Michigan, president of Ferris Institute, Big Rapids; "The Trap," by William L. Bryan, president of Indiana University; "The Social Ideal in Education," by Henry T. Bailey, editor of *School Arts Magazine,* Boston; and "Training for Leisure," by John H. Finley, New York commissioner of education, and president of the University of New York.

The March–April issue of *Minnesota Music,* the official journal of the Minnesota Music Teachers' Association, contains an inter-

esting article by the editor, Emily Grace Kay, entitled "Glimpses of the Musical Life of Minnesota in Her Early Days." Miss Kay was able to find much valuable material in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society, consulting especially the collection of old theatre and opera bills of St. Paul and the files of early newspapers.

The Millers' Belgian Relief Movement, 1914–15 is an account, written by the director of the movement, Mr. William C. Edgar, of the organization and carrying-out of the undertaking inaugurated by the *Northwestern Miller* to send flour from the United States to the destitute civil population of Belgium (Minneapolis, 1915. 73 p.).

The March issue of the *Artisan,* published by the students of the William Hood Dunwoody Institute, contains a biographical sketch and appreciation of Mr. Dunwoody. A history of printing in Minneapolis is promised for a later issue.

The Winning of the Valley is the title of a novel by a Minnesota author, Rev. David T. Robertson of Faribault.

The Supreme Court of the United States as an International Tribunal, a commencement address given before the University of North Dakota, June 16, 1915, by William R. Vance, dean of the law school of the University of Minnesota, has appeared as number 23 of the *Publications* of the American Society for Judicial Settlement of International Disputes (Baltimore, November, 1915. 24 p.).

The Minnesota State Horticultural Society has issued in a single bound volume entitled *Trees, Fruits, and Flowers of Minnesota, 1915,* the twelve numbers of volume 43 of the *Minnesota Horticulturist* (528 p.). Included in the volume are the transactions of the society from December 1, 1914, to December 1, 1915, a list of the books in the library of the society in December, 1915, and the membership roll for 1915.

Mr. Albert H. Turrittin, superintendent of banks, has submitted to the governor the *Sixth Annual Report* of the department of banking, giving in detail the "condition of the banks of discount and deposit, savings banks, trust companies, and building and loan associations" for the year ending July 31, 1915 (55 p.).

The Civil Service Bureau of St. Paul has submitted to the mayor its *Second Annual Report* for the year ending December 31, 1915 (72 p.). Some interesting statistics in tabular and graphic form relative to the examinations conducted by the bureau, and to the cost of employment for the city from the years 1910 to 1915 are included in the report. Two other pamphlets recently issued by the bureau are *Civil Service Manual: Standards and Types of Examinations* (September, 1915. 100 p.), and *Rules and Regulations as Amended September 30, 1915* (95, xxv p.).

The Minneapolis board of park commissioners has issued its *Thirty-third Annual Report,* covering the year ending December 31, 1915 (146 p.). The *Report* presents an account of the improvements made during the year as well as contemplated betterments in each unit of the city's system of parks and boulevards. The section on "General Recreation and Playgrounds" will be of especial interest to those who are concerned with the welfare of the city's children. The volume, with its maps and plans and numerous half-tone reproductions of exquisite bits of park scenes, presents a very attractive appearance, and will well repay even a most cursory examination.

University Extension Lectures and the University Lyceum, issued as number 23 of volume 18 of the *Bulletin* of the University of Minnesota, contains the announcements of the lecture and lyceum department of the general extension division for the year 1916–17 (Minneapolis, 1915. 46 p.).

Part 2 of the *Course of Study for the Elementary School,* by J. L. Stockton, principal of the Winona Normal elementary school, comprises the March number of the *Winona Normal Bulletin* (series 12, number 2). Part 1 appeared as number 1 of series 12 in November, 1915.

Annual catalogues containing announcements for the year 1916–17 have recently been issued by the following Minnesota colleges: St. Olaf (Northfield, 1916. 126 p.), Carleton (Northfield, 1916. 136 p.), and Macalester (St. Paul, 1916. 119 p.).

The Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts: An Account of Its Work, issued by the trustees of the society as a *Supplement* to

the September, 1915, *Bulletin* of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (21 p.), outlines briefly the value to the city of Minneapolis of two of the society's activities: the Art School and the Institute of Arts. Illustrations presenting interior views of the institute and examples of the work of the art students, and reproducing paintings, tapestries, and sculptures to be found in the art collections, add to the attractiveness of the book.

The Associated Charities of Minneapolis has issued a *Report,* called thirtieth and thirty-first (55 p.), which summarizes its work for the twenty-one months beginning January 1, 1914, and ending September 30, 1915.

The *Thirty-third Annual Report* of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, for the year ending December 31, 1915, is a valuable and exhaustive compilation of data relating to the grain trade with special reference to the Minneapolis market (202 p.).

The *Minnesota Baptist Annual* for 1915 (175 p.) contains the minutes of the fifty-sixth annual meeting of the Minnesota Baptist State Convention, convened at Temple Baptist Church, Minneapolis, October 11–14, and of various associational meetings held throughout the state during the year, as well as reports of the work of organizations affiliated with the Baptist Church.

The historical address delivered by Trevanion W. Hugo at the fiftieth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Minnesota in Minneapolis, May 18 and 19, 1915, and printed in its *Proceedings,* 1915, has been published as a separate with the title *Souvenir of the Semi-Centennial of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Minnesota, 1865–1915: An Historical Address* (93 p.). The accounts of the organization of pioneer Masonic lodges, chapters, and commanderies, with reprints of their proceedings, are of interest to students of early Minnesota history.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota has issued the *Proceedings* of its sixty-third annual communication held in St. Paul, January 19 and 20, 1916 (125, 74 p.). Included in the volume are the *Proceedings* of the twenty-fourth annual reunion of the Masonic Veteran Association of

Minnesota held in St. Paul, January 18 and 19, 1916 (vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 581–636), which contain memorial sketches of twenty-nine deceased members of the association.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota has published the *Proceedings* of its fifty-fourth annual convocation held in St. Paul, October 12, 1915 (56, 67 p.).

St. Paul Year Book, 1916, is the title of the fourth yearly "almanack" issued by the Corning Advertising Agency (57 p.). In addition to the usual almanac features, the book contains portraits and brief sketches of prominent St. Paul men.

A series of historical and reminiscent articles of more than usual interest appeared in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Journal,* March 12–April 30. The author, Mr. Andrew C. Dunn, of Winnebago, came to Minnesota in 1854 from New York, and was one of the first men admitted to the bar in the territory. In the first paper of the series he relates his experiences during his trip to Minnesota and his recollections of St. Paul as it appeared to him on his arrival. Since there seemed to be no favorable opening for a young lawyer there, Mr. Dunn decided to go to the mouth of the Sauk River where the United States government had just established a new land office. His trip thither by way of St. Anthony and up the Mississippi and his first view of Sauk Rapids form the subject matter of the second paper. In the third article Mr. Dunn draws for the reader a striking picture of the gathering of the Winnebago Indians at Watab prairie on "payment day," and in the latter part tells of the founding of St. Cloud. The fourth paper contains an interesting account of a session of a territorial court held in Benton County in September, 1854, and a description of the "annual pilgrimages" made by settlers from the Red River and Selkirk country in their Red River carts, laden with furs or other negotiable commodities, on their way to St. Paul to secure, through trade and bargaining, supplies for the next season. In the fifth and sixth papers Mr. Dunn discusses the political conditions obtaining in the United States and in the territory in the period just preceding the movement for statehood and tells of the struggle between the Republicans and Democrats over the organization of the constitutional

convention of 1857 and the adoption of the constitution. Mr. Dunn has been a keen and understanding observer of the social, economic, and political life of the people of Minnesota, and the present articles, in which are set down some of the results of his observations, form a valuable contribution to Minnesota history.

"Early History of Mankato; Recollections of Pioneers" is the title of a paper by Florence K. Stubbs of Mankato, which was read before meetings of the Anthony Wayne Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and later printed in the *Mankato Daily Review,* April 1 and 3. The author has gathered together a good deal of interesting and useful information about the growth and development of Mankato and about the lives of its pioneer settlers during the ten years following the coming of the first white men in February, 1852. The organization and departure of the first company to enlist for service in the Civil War in 1861, the Sioux massacre of 1862, and the execution of the thirty-eight Indians in Mankato on December 26, 1862, are treated at some length.

Louis L. Collins contributed an article to the February 20 issue of the *Minneapolis Journal* entitled "Six Hundred Minnesotans Owe Debt of Home to Wisconsin Man," in which he tells of the establishment in 1885 of the Washburn Memorial Orphan Asylum in accordance with the provisions of the will of Cadwallader C. Washburn, former governor of Wisconsin and brother of the late Senator W. D. Washburn of Minneapolis. Although Governor Washburn never resided in Minnesota he had large business interests in the state, being especially concerned with the development of the water power at the falls and with the flour-milling industry. On account of the liberal endowment provided by its founder and through the wise management of its superintendent, C. E. Faulkner, the Washburn orphanage has been able to solve with a large degree of success the problem of preparing dependent children for early self-support.

In the April 18 issue of the *Mankato Daily Review* there appeared under the title "Secret Society of the Early Days in Mankato," an interesting history of a society known as "The Knights of the Forest," organized in the winter of 1862, follow-

ing the Sioux outbreak. Other lodges were established in the same winter in several towns of southern Minnesota. The order is no longer in existence, though a few members are still living in Mankato, among them Mr. Charles A. Chapman, the author of the *Review* article. The object of the organization was to secure the permanent removal of all Indian tribes from Minnesota, and Mr. Chapman thinks it very probable that the early removal of the Winnebagoes from the southern part of the state by the United States government was largely due to the efforts of the society.

In recent issues of Minnesota newspapers there have appeared a number of short reminiscent articles containing material of value on early local history. Under the title "Writes about Melrose in 1867" in the *Melrose Beacon,* March 2, Mr. W. B. Whitney describes his trip on foot from Sauk Rapids up the Sauk Valley to Melrose, at that time only a stage station. In the March 11 issue of the *Winona Republican-Herald* Mr. J. T. Blair tells of the first agricultural fair held in Winona County in 1859. Valuable data about the early history of Hokah are to be found in "The Pioneer Days" in the *Houston County Chief* (Hokah), March 23 and 30. "Early Days in Faribault are Brought to Mind" in the *Faribault Republican,* April 7, by S. S. Nutting of Elgin, Illinois, a Faribault pioneer of the early fifties, continues his recollections of the early history of that city begun in the issue of March 3, 1915. An account of "the longest, coldest, most stormy winter" ever experienced in the state, gleaned from old newspapers files, appeared in the *Murray County Herald* (Slayton), April 14, under the title "Pipestone Star Tells of Winter of 1880–81." The razing of old log houses dating back to the fifties was the occasion of the appearance of two brief historical sketches: "Tearing Down Relic of Early Day" in *Mankato Daily Review,* March 14, and "To Dismantle Oldest Cabin Built of Logs over Sixty Years Ago" in *Rochester Post and Record,* February 25.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COLLECTIONS, volume 1. Reprint of the *Annals* of the society published 1850–1856, containing miscellaneous papers and sketches. 1902. xii, 430 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 2. Miscellaneous documents and papers. 1860–1867. 294 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 3. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1870–1880. viii, 433 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 4. *History of the City of St. Paul and County of Ramsey, Minnesota,* by J. Fletcher Williams. 1876. 475 p. Cloth, $3.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 5. *History of the Ojibway Nation,* by William W. Warren. 1885. 535 p. Cloth, $3.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 6. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1887–1894. iv, 556 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 7. *The Mississippi River and Its Source,* by J. V. Brower. 1893. xv, 360 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 8. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1895–1898. xii, 542 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 9. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1901. xiv, 694 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 10. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1905. xvi, viii, 938 p. in 2 parts. Cloth, $5.00

COLLECTIONS, volume 11. *Itasca State Park, an Illustrated History,* by J. V. Brower. 1905. 285 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 12. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1909. xx, 827 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 13. *Lives of the Governors of Minnesota,* by James H. Baker. 1908. xii, 480 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 14. *Minnesota Biographies, 1655–1912,* by Warren Upham and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap. 1912. xxviii, 892 p. Cloth, $2.50

COLLECTIONS, volume 15. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1915. xv, 872 p. Cloth, $2.50

THE ABORIGINES OF MINNESOTA: *A Report Based on the Collections of Jacob V. Brower, and on the Field Surveys and Notes of Alfred J. Hill and Theodore H. Lewis,* by N. H. Winchell. 1911. xiv, 761 p., quarto. ¾ leather, $5.00

MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN, volume 1, numbers 1–6. Papers, documents, reviews, and notes. February, 1915–May, 1916. 348 p. Paper, $1.50